

THE BOOK OF

3 John

BIBLE STUDY GUIDES FOR SMALL GROUPS

RELATIONAL BIBLE STUDY SERIES

CREATED BY STEVE CASE

The Way We Do Church

OPENING QUESTION

What is one thing you expect when you go to church?

READ 3 John 1:1–15.

1. What would expect in a letter from John?

- A. The message, “Love one another.”
- B. A story about Jesus.
- C. Warning about false messiahs.
- D. Warning about false teachers.
- E. Warning about a bad church leader.
- F. A strong message from one of the “Sons of Thunder” (*Mark 3:17*).
- G. A reminder of the need to obey God.
- H. Challenges to deepen fellowship within the church.
- I. Other.

2. Who was Gaius?

- A. A male, in contrast to the female addressed in *2 John 1:1*.
- B. One of John’s closest friends.
- C. A church leader.
- D. A guy in the Bible (see *Acts 19:29; 20:4; Rom. 16:23; 1 Cor 1:14*).
- E. A faithful church leader.
- F. Someone John could trust.
- G. Someone John loved.
- H. Just a common name at that time.
- I. Other.

3. Why did John pray for the physical health of Gaius?

- A. It’s just a passing greeting; don’t make a big deal out of it.
- B. You’re only as good as your health.
- C. Your physical health impacts everything else.
- D. Old people worry about their health a lot, and John was getting old.
- E. Gaius had problems with his health.
- F. This provides a Bible verse about the importance of health.
- G. The people in that area were experiencing a pandemic.
- H. John had read *1 Timothy 4:8* and *5:23*.
- I. Other.

4. How can you make your soul healthy?

- A. It's really up to God, not up to you.
- B. Practice spiritual disciplines.
- C. Pray about it and ask others to pray for you.
- D. Go to a soul doctor.
- E. Temperance—abstain from all bad things; moderation in all good things.
- F. Actively participate in a faith community.
- G. Repent, apologize, and ask for forgiveness from God and others.
- H. Celebrate and rejoice—by yourself and with others.
- I. Other.

5. Why did John urge hospitality for traveling teachers?

- A. This balanced his warning in *2 John 1:10-11*.
- B. John benefitted from this type of hospitality.
- C. Diotrephes didn't allow his church to help traveling teachers.
- D. It's what Jesus would do.
- E. This was the forerunner of Airbnb and Vrbo.
- F. To counter Diotrephes' bad attitudes and actions.
- G. This was how the church operated at that time.
- H. Other.

6. Put a "B" by Bad examples and a "G" by Good examples:

- _____ You.
- _____ Most of your friends.
- _____ Your pastor.
- _____ Most of the leaders at your church.
- _____ Social media.
- _____ Your family.
- _____ Influencers.
- _____ Sports, music, or movie stars.
- _____ Other.

7. The book of *2 John* warned about false teachers. What's the message of *3 John*?

8. When has someone considered you a child of God because of your actions (*vs. 11*)?

